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TEMP Max 26 | Min 15 | Humidity 50% Mostly sunny Sensex 85,102 | Nifty 25,960 | Gold 1,30,147 | Silver 1,82,100 | Dollar 90.05 | Euro 104.90 | GBP 120.06

NO CHECKS & BALANCES

Advocate goes to court, accusing senior officials of disobeying High Court directive meant to revive police misconduct oversight system

PAGE 3

PICK AND THROW

Activists claim 184 dogs picked up from across city and placed in temporary shelters without proper protocol and in violation of SOPs

PAGE 5

Against backdrop of Goa fire tragedy, officials say several city's clubs, lounges still use decor and fittings that can prove lethal in absence of fire safety measures such as wide remote exits, working hydrants, smoke detectors or sprinklers

IN THE LINE OF FIRE

Ahead of year-end festivities, police ask all venues to tick safety checklist boxes

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The recent inferno at a Goa nightclub, where 25 people lost their lives, has pushed fire officials in Bengaluru to issue a renewed warning to local nightlife hubs. Officials say many clubs and lounges still use décor and fittings that can turn a busy venue into a deadly enclosure.

Flammable soundproofing foam, acoustic panels, wooden cladding and fabric lined walls can catch fire within seconds. Synthetic upholstery, drapes and foam seating release thick smoke that makes escape difficult. Plastic LED casings, ceiling hangings and stage props can drip burning material once they melt. Grease filled kitchen exhausts, multiple LPG cylinders and alcohol vapours near crowded bar counters add further fuel. Pyrotechnics, smoke machines and high intensity lighting rigs create additional ignition points.

An official pointed to recent such incidents across the country to stress how narrow exits, hidden staircases and crowded dance floors can turn minor sparks into major disasters. "Low lighting and loud music delay detection, while blocked or locked exits create bottlenecks.

"A venue can be vibrant without compromising on fire resistant materials. The attitude must change from patchwork fixes to long term planning

— Fire and Emergency Services official

Overcrowding increases the risk of trampling, and alcohol slows reaction time. These conditions are common in some of Bengaluru's nightlife hotspots, especially in Indiranagar, Koramangala and MG Road, where year end crowds surge," the official said.

Experts say safety needs to be woven into Bengaluru's club

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

Forest dump

As littering continues unchecked inside and outside Turahalli forest, city agencies yet to submit report on status to green tribunal

KAUSHIK JN

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Turahalli forest continues to suffer from indiscriminate littering. With walls protecting the forest area broken at several places, intruders continue to dump construction debris and other waste inside the Turahalli reserve forest area.

While the reserve forest land is choking with garbage, agencies such as Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), Greater Bengaluru Authority (erstwhile Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike), and Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) continue to dilly-dally on submission of a report on the status of the forest as instructed by the National Green Tribunal (NGT) nearly four months ago.

The southern bench of the tribunal has now stated that none of the agencies have filed the reports sought from them in August.

Notably, the principal bench of NGT had taken suo motu cognizance of an article published in Bangalore Mirror on June 6 about garbage littered in Turahalli forest. The tribunal then issued notices to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Tune in

Legendary singer Vijay Prakash will be performing live in an evening where music transcends time and emotion, as he returns to the spotlight with a concert that promises to be nothing short of extraordinary.
Where: Phoenix Marketcity, Whitefield;
When: December 13, 6 pm

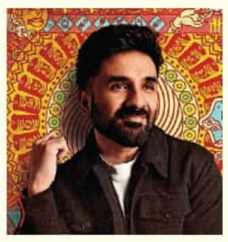
02 Feel the beat

Thaikkudam Bridge will be performing live, bringing their signature fusion of rock, folk, classical, indie, and world music in a high energy concert.
Where: Forum South, Konanakunte;
When: December 13, 7 pm

03 Mind mystery

Shibin Harinadh, a mentalist, is presenting an evening of wonder, as he dives into the hidden corners of the mind, in an immersive magical journey.
Where: Zed The Baker, Indiranagar;
When: December 13, 8 pm

04 Journey through India



Vir Das is set to take audiences on a nationwide audio-visual stand-up journey, weaving the vibrant sounds of everyday life into a celebration of the nation's subtle nuances.
Where: Prestige Centre for Performing Arts, Konanakunte;
When: December 20, 21, 7.30 pm

05 Contemporary art

India Art Festival (IAF) is back in Bengaluru for its fifth edition, hosting a vibrant showcase of contemporary Indian art, bringing together over 20 galleries and 300 artists from 25 cities across India.
Where: Crown Pavilions, Palace Ground;
When: December 12 to 14

City's icons preserved in miniature form

Inspired by other countries' way of celebrating culture through physical collectibles, B'luru man makes 3D miniatures of landmarks across city to honour and cherish them

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A 33-year-old man from Bengaluru is turning the city's most beloved landmarks into detailed 3D miniatures — from Vidyarthi Bhavan and CTR to the still-unfinished Ejipura flyover — in an effort to preserve the everyday sights that define the city.

Parth Jha, a marketing and brand management professional who moved to Bengaluru from Madhya Pradesh in 2023, discovered 3D printing about two years ago. A trip to Japan last year sparked his fascination with miniature replicas, which are widely available there as collectibles.

"I've been fortunate enough to travel around a couple of countries, and noticed that the way they celebrate their surroundings and culture in terms of physical collectibles was completely missing in India. The idea was to celebrate our identities in more ways than just a regular fridge magnet — it was to create physical forms of memory," he told Bangalore Mirror.

He noted that creating Bengaluru-themed miniatures became his first choice, as they were easily observed in his surroundings, while the deep emotions expressed by longtime residents toward the city also influenced him. "The kind of pride I see in Bengalureans is rare," said Parth who has also lived in other major cities of India such as Delhi and Mumbai. "While there are of lot of immigrants here, I knew old Bengalureans would be really excited to talk about what their version of Bengaluru is," he said, adding that one explanation of the behaviour could be that Delhi and Mumbai, for the lack of a better word, turned 'cosmopolitan' many decades ago.

3D miniature replicas of various iconic locations across Bengaluru by Parth Jha

Project is more than just artistic pursuit, says man who makes 3D miniatures of city locations, calls it his way to capture city's collective memory

Jha's first experiment was a small-scale model of the original Mavalli Tiffin Rooms near Lalbagh. When he shared it on his Instagram page, @shrinkraystudio, in September, the response was immediate and immensely enthusiastic. Since then, followers have been sending him suggestions, and he now has a list of 30–40 potential locations to recreate. "The eateries especially have been supportive and have shared my work on their social media pages. They understand that the motive is to pay homage and not entirely commercial," he said.

Among his completed pieces are a miniature of Dodda Ganapathi from the Basavanagudi temple and the idol of Prasanna Veeranjaneya Swamy from Malhalakshmi Layout. Each sculpture begins with conceptualisation and 3D modelling, followed by prototyping and hand-painting. A single 45 mm miniature can take anywhere from a week to a month to complete. "3D printers have become easily available but they are being used for functionality, rather than artistic expression. I'm not married to the technology and likely not on par with the way professionals would approach it but right now, this is what I have and I'm using it," he said.

Jha has also had to develop his painting skills along the way. He imports most of his paints, he says, because the highly pigmented, smooth-finish colours he needs are not available in India. Indian paints tend to be thick and clumpy for this kind of work, he explains.

He often posts work-in-progress images online to crowdsource feedback. His Veena Stores miniature, for instance, was updated to include a space for the 'chutney thatha' to stand and cups on top of the water filter, after followers pointed out the missing elements. For Jha, the project is more than an artistic pursuit — it is a way to capture the city's collective memory. "In Japan, every city has a different design — from their postboxes to signboards. We have somehow lost the aesthetic identity of our cities. Bengaluru is passively maintaining it. You should be on the lookout, otherwise, you can live here all your life and still not notice the character of the city at all. You will continue to get up on a Sunday, and go to the Rameshwaram cafe and come back," he chuckled.

B'luru Airport halts overstay penalties

Kempegowda International Airport has put its overstay charges on hold for a few days after the disruption caused by IndiGo flight cancellations led to long queues and confusion at the arrival zones. The airport had planned to begin charging vehicles that linger beyond the eight-minute free window starting Monday, but officials said the rollout will now take place a few days later. A spokesperson said the decision was taken after consulting authorities, adding that the airport wants flight operations to stabilise before enforcing the new rules. The revised date will be announced shortly.

The overstay charges are aimed at easing congestion and curbing unauthorised halts at the Terminal 1 and Terminal 2 arrival kerbs, where traffic has become increasingly chaotic. Under the new system, private cars stopping beyond eight minutes will face charges of Rs 150 for 8–13 minutes and Rs 300 for 13–18 minutes. Vehicles that stay longer will be towed to the nearest police station. **–BMB**

'Exam fees kept low for rural candidates'

The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has ensured that examination fees for various government recruitment tests remain affordable for students from rural and economically weaker backgrounds, Education Minister Dr MC Sudhakar said on Monday. Responding to a question in the Legislative Assembly, the minister explained that although KEA conducts competitive exams without any government grants, it bears all administrative and logistical costs, including examination centres, printing, transporting confidential materials, and honorariums for staff.

With rising costs, keeping fees minimal is challenging, but KEA continues to charge only the minimum amount, he said. Students applying for multiple posts under the same syllabus pay the full fee for the first post and just Rs 100 for each additional post. Dr Sudhakar emphasised that KEA receives no government funding. **–BMB**

Health dept to act only on forced c-sections

Karnataka Health and Family Welfare Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao said on Monday the state health department can't intervene unless it is found that caesarean deliveries are being done intentionally across the state.

Minister Gundu Rao responded to a query from JD-S Legislative Council member Govindaraju about the increase in caesarean deliveries. He also added malnutrition is not the only reason for the increase in number of caesarean deliveries in the state.

MLC Govindaraju said that doctors are allegedly misguiding patients in this regard. "In Kolar Government Hospital, 36 per cent of deliveries are caesarean, whereas in private hospitals, it is more than 76 per cent. My demand is that the state government should take cognisance of the issue," he added.

"According to doctors, malnutrition is the main reason for caesarean deliveries in the Kolar region. This percentage is higher in the Kalyana-Karnataka region," he said.

Police team accused of abduction and extortion

A fresh allegation of kidnapping and extortion has brought a team from the Bandepalya Police Station under the scanner, after a Nepali national accused them of abducting him and later framing him in a false ganja case.

According to the complaint filed by the victim's wife, a group of men claiming to be police personnel barged into their home in Vinayaka Nagar, Yelahanka, around 10.30 pm on December 5 and forcibly took her husband away in a red Santro car. The team allegedly included uniformed staff from the Bandepalya station along with a private individual believed to be a local rowdy.

Case has brought police force under scrutiny, yet again

Soon after, a kidnapping FIR was registered at Yelahanka Police Station. However, within 24 hours, Bandepalya police filed an FIR accusing the victim of selling ganja in their jurisdiction, following which he was shown as arrested in a narcotics case. The sudden case and the timing of the arrest have raised serious concerns about procedural violations and the possibility of misuse of power.

Yelahanka police have recovered CCTV footage showing the car moving around the area on the night of the alleged abduction, suggesting the incident occurred much earlier than the version recorded in the NDPS case.

The involvement of uniformed personnel along with a civilian in what the family calls an extortion attempt has once again brought the force under scrutiny, especially at a time when multiple cases of misconduct have already been flagged across the city. An internal inquiry is now underway to examine the sequence of events, jurisdictional lapses, and the legitimacy of the narcotics case filed against the victim. —BMB

Inaction on police oversight system faces legal scrutiny

Advocate moves court over authorities' failure to implement HC directive urging creation of District Police Complaint Authorities, leaving many misconduct complaints unresolved

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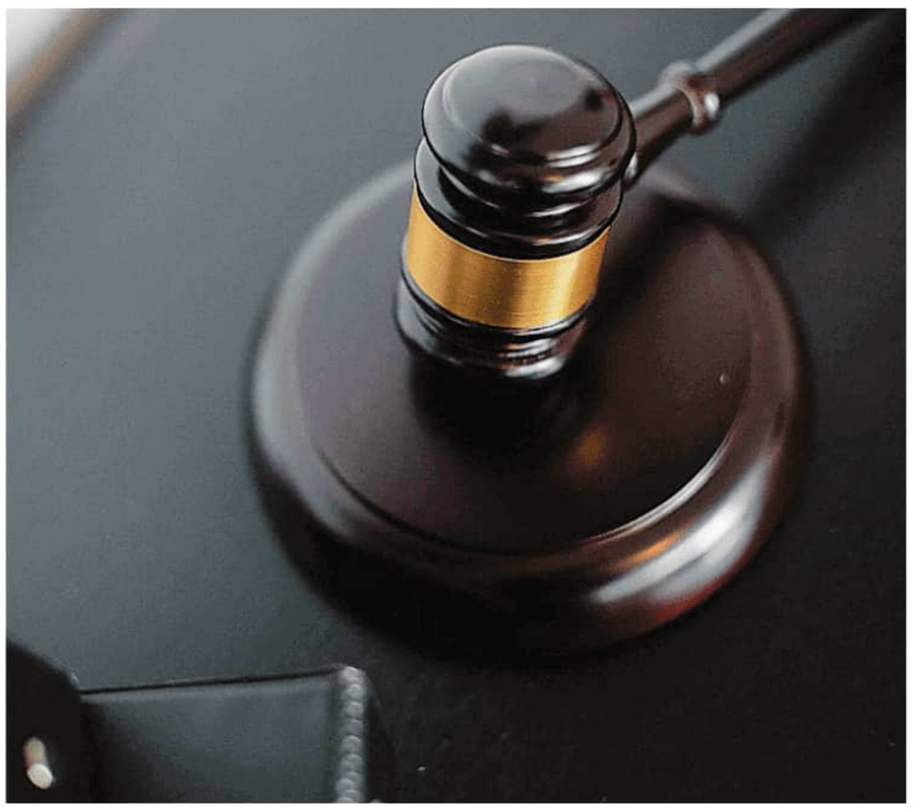

Petition states that administrative apathy and deliberate inaction amounts to violation of judicial authority; following High Court's notice, officials named in petition are now required to file affidavits explaining delay

The state government's continued failure to constitute District Police Complaint Authorities has now escalated into a legal battle, with a city-based advocate filing a civil contempt petition accusing senior officials of disobeying a High Court directive meant to revive the state's police misconduct oversight system.

A civil contempt petition filed before the Karnataka High Court alleges that top government and police officials have wilfully ignored a judicial order to operationalise the long-pending District Police Complaint Authority (DPCA), leaving thousands of police misconduct complaints, including a four-year-old illegal arrest case, stuck in limbo.

The petition, submitted on November 25, 2025, stems from a complaint by Balaji S, who says he was illegally arrested by Bagalagunte Police Station personnel on December 25, 2021. His grievance has remained unresolved for nearly four years because the DPCA, tasked with handling complaints against police personnel up to the rank of Inspector, has yet to be constituted in several districts.

The DPCA mechanism, mandated under the Supreme Court's landmark 'Prakash Singh judgment' of 2006, requires every district to establish an authority headed by the Deputy Commissioner, with a civil society representative and a senior police officer as members. While the State Police Complaint Authority (SPCA), which handles complaints against DCP-rank officers and above, is functioning, DPCAs across Karnataka have remained defunct due to the government's failure to appoint members.

Balaji's case had previously reached the High Court through a writ petition. On August 19, 2025, the court directed the government to nominate a DPCA member within one month and address the complainant's case within three months. However, the deadline expired on September 19, 2025, without any progress.

The contempt petition states that this "administrative apathy and deliberate inaction" amounts to a violation of judicial authority. It adds that Balaji's case is only one among thousands currently pending before non-functional DPCAs across the state.

Those named in the contempt petition include Additional Chief Secretary (Home) Tushar Girinath, Deputy Commissioner and DPCA Chairperson Jagadish, Bengaluru Police Commissioner Seemanth Kumar Singh, Joint Commissioner of Police (Administration) and DPCA Member-Secretary Kuldeep Kumar R Jain, and Bagalagunte Inspector Hanumanth Raju.

Speaking to BM, the advocate said that despite a clear High Court direction in August 2025 to constitute the DPCA within one month, no appointments have been made. "The authority remains non-functional, and numerous complaints, including ours from 2021, are still pending with no proceedings or accountability. This is what compelled us to move a contempt petition, and the High Court has now issued notices to the senior officials concerned," said the advocate.

Following the High Court's notice, the officials named in the petition are now required to file their affidavits explaining the delay, a step that is expected to be completed within this month.

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CRIME FILES

Man sentenced for mother's rape

A 30-year-old truck driver from Gudibande taluk has been sentenced to life imprisonment by the Chikkaballapura Additional District and Sessions Court for raping his 65-year-old mother. The court also imposed a fine of Rs 25,000 on the convict, Ashoka.

Ashoka, the youngest of three children, had been living with his elderly parents after his wife left him a few months into their marriage. According to police, he was a habitual drinker who frequently returned home intoxicated and created disturbances.

The incident occurred in August last year. Ashoka allegedly returned home drunk late at night and found his mother sleeping in the backyard. He dragged her towards a garbage dump behind the house. When the woman resisted and cried for help, he allegedly assaulted her and proceeded to rape her.

Hearing her screams, the victim's husband, who had been asleep inside the house, rushed out, but the accused fled before he could be caught. The woman, bleeding and in distress, was shifted to the Gudibande Government Hospital, where she gave her statement to the police.

Based on her complaint, Gudibande Police registered a case for voluntarily causing hurt, outraging a woman's modesty with intent to disrobe, and rape under relevant provisions. Ashoka was later traced, arrested, and remanded to judicial custody.

After examining the evidence, the court held him guilty and awarded life imprisonment. —BMB

Lack of proof weakens rape claim

A complaint filed by a young woman alleging that a cab driver and his friend gang-raped her has come under serious doubt, with investigators now saying that no evidence supports the charge.

The woman approached Madiwala police several days after the alleged incident, accusing the driver and another man of sexually assaulting her. The case was soon transferred to Banaswadi Police Station. However, the investigation quickly hit inconsistencies. Police officials involved in the probe said that the survivor's account changed at multiple stages.

Adding to the discrepancies, officers recovered WhatsApp chat logs that showed she had been in touch with the accused earlier, contradicting her initial statement that she did not know him. During interrogation, the cab driver claimed that the sexual encounter had been consensual.

Investigators are now preparing to record the woman's statement before a magistrate under Section 164 of the CrPC. —BMB

Family tragedy: 3 found dead

A tragic case of suspected murder–suicide unfolded in Suddaguntepalya on Monday, where a 68-year-old woman and her daughter allegedly took their own lives after poisoning the daughter's 14-year-old son.

The incident took place at a house on Tavarekere 2nd Cross. The deceased have been identified as Madamma (68), her daughter Sudha (38), and Sudha's son Maunish (14). Police believe the boy was killed before the two women consumed poison around 9 am.

The incident surfaced after neighbours grew suspicious when none of them stepped out for several hours and alerted the police. A team from Suddaguntepalya Police Station, along with DCP Sarah Fatima and forensic experts, inspected the site. However, clarification on the motive is still unknown. —BMB

THE GREAT CLEAN-UP

Big volunteer drive restores neglected flyover space

Joint CSR effort by KPMG, BSCC and volunteers delivers major under-flyover restoration, boosting cleanliness, usability, safety and community pride

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Over 200 volunteers and workers from Bengaluru South City Corporation (Bommanahalli Division) teamed up on Sunday to reclaim the area under the Agara flyover. The team aimed to restore the space to its earlier condition as a functional and welcoming public area for all users.

Metro construction has been ongoing for the past 4–5 years, and the entire stretch under the flyover has turned into a dumping and storage zone for materials and debris. People also took advantage of the active project site to dump garbage and use the space as a public toilet.

This flyover was cleaned, painted and transformed by a team from KPMG Global Services in 2019 under GBA's Adopt-a-Flyover scheme in partnership with The Ugly Indians, and it had remained well-maintained as a public space until Metro work began.

Over the last six years, the area has deteriorated into a dusty, dangerous and chaotic traffic junction, with recent white-topping work adding to the difficulties faced by pedestrians and the general public.

As part of GBA's new initiative to develop spaces under flyovers with CSR support, KPMG Global Services joined hands with the Bengaluru South City Corporation (BSCC) and The Ugly Indians to restore the area under the flyover. BMRCL supported the effort by clearing materials and debris as most civil works in the area are now complete.

The massive flyover has over 60 pillars, of which 20 remain part of the project site. The team has taken up 40 pillars, divided into four sections of 10 each, for restoration and refreshing work.

The work involved one-time intensive cleaning of dust, debris and waste (supported by BMRCL and BSCC), followed by repainting the pillars with a fresh design using a calming lilac colour palette.

The volunteers included more than 150 employees of KPMG Global Services (Tax Group) and their families, including young children and parents. For many, it was their first experience participating in such an event, and there was tremendous enthusiasm throughout the three hours, with volunteers expressing a renewed respect for the effort required to maintain a public space as large as the Agara flyover.

"We feel proud to participate in the beautification of Agara flyover. We are happy to contribute something for Bengaluru. Our family members and volunteers participated in the beautification of Agara flyover," said KPMG Global Services Senior Partner Srikanth ND.

As this is an important junction with no marked pedestrian crossings, a clean, safe and accessible under-flyover space is essential to provide refuge to pedestrians crossing the junction and boarding or alighting from buses.

A coordinator from The Ugly Indians said that when citizens and the government work together on the ground, change happens.

Arun Pai, Coordinator of Project Walkaluru, said it is encouraging to see companies wanting to give back to Namma Bengaluru through CSR by involving employees in hands-on action to improve pedestrian infrastructure.

Solid Waste Management (Bommanahalli Division) Assistant General Manager Nethra said she plans to organise a rangoli competition for pourakarmikas. "Our objective is to keep the flyover clean and neat. We will take up beautification of black spots in Bommanahalli Division," she said.

Volunteers participated in the beautification of Agara flyover on Sunday

> "It is encouraging to see companies wanting to give back to Namma Bengaluru through CSR by involving employees in hands-on action to improve pedestrian infrastructure
> –Arun Pai, Coordinator, Project Walkaluru

8 bags of trash cleared from Kaikondrahalli Lake

Around 30 volunteers spent their time clearing waste at Kaikondrahalli Lake on Sarjapur Road in Southeast Bengaluru. The volunteers collected eight sacks of garbage on the lake bund.

They found many single-use disposables. They had support from the Greater Bengaluru Authority and the Lakes Department.

Bharathy Jayaprakash, plogger with The Indian Ploggers Arm, said lakes have always been close to her heart — water has a way of calming the mind. "What truly hurts is seeing the lakebed turn green, largely because of the trash. During our plog, we picked up nearly 50 kg of waste, including water bottles, polythene covers, slippers, chocolate wrappers and biscuit packets, clothes and more. Better waste management of neighbourhoods like slums would help, and we urge every citizen to take care of the environment like they own it for future generations to enjoy," she said.

Volunteers at Kaikondrahalli on Sunday

Plog Raja of The Indian Ploggers said every time volunteers join a plogging activity at a lake, the joy is beyond words as it ensures that water bodies are not polluted with plastic and saves birds and other living creatures from the plastic menace. "There is greater involvement of the public when they see a cleaner lake. This builds an earth-friendly, sustainable model. Civic authorities and citizens' collective force will always do wonders," he said.

B'luru is 16th in global tech hub list

Bengaluru has climbed to 16th place in a global assessment of leading technology hubs, becoming the first Indian city to enter the top 30. The Savills India report noted that San Francisco and New York continue to hold the top two positions, while Bengaluru's expanding talent base and strong tech ecosystem have reinforced its status as India's premier technology centre. Often called India's 'Silicon Valley,' the city continues to grow its skilled workforce and strengthen its technology networks. "Cities with strong business opportunities, cultural vibrancy and skilled workforces lead global innovation. Bengaluru, with its deep talent pool and improving infrastructure, can rise further as companies explore hubs beyond the West," said Arvind Nandan of Savills India in its latest report. **–IANS**

Eco-friendly office plan unveiled

The Greater Bengaluru Authority plans to build new offices for four newly formed corporations using a blue and green building model focused on sustainable water management and eco-friendly design. The plan includes rainwater harvesting, reuse of treated wastewater, blue roofs for temporary storage and systems to improve groundwater recharge. Green roofs, living walls, native plants, urban forestry and solar panels are also proposed. Locations for the offices have been finalised, and all will follow a uniform design. A fresh tender is preparing the detailed project report. The offices will be located in Basavapura, Nagarbhavi, Chokkanahalli and behind Banashankari Metro station in the southern division area. **–BMB**

Rajanukunte police station shift urged

Residents have urged the government to shift Rajanukunte Police Station from the Peenya Northwest subdivision to the Yelahanka Northeast subdivision for better administration and public convenience. They note that the Peenya office lies 21 kilometres away, while the Yelahanka office in Amruthahalli is only 12 kilometres from the station. Former Doddaballapur Planning Authority chairman Ditturu Jayanna said the shift would improve supervision, patrolling and emergency response. MLA SR Vishwanath has written to the government supporting the move. Local leaders have also sought shifting nearby villages from Chikkajala limits to Rajanukunte for easier access to police services. **–BMB**

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Drainage neglect
KP Agrahara

Street dogs roam freely on 15th Main, Magadi Road 2nd Cross in KP Agrahara, along with the absence of proper rainwater drainage, pose risks to children and senior citizens and create health hazards due to stagnant water.

Surveillance gap
Ulsoor

The CCTV camera on 1st Cross, Gupta Layout in Ulsoor is non-functional, resulting in frequent bike thefts in the area.

Hygiene crisis
JP Nagar

Trash dumping near a temple on 6th E Main Road in Gaurav Nagar, JP Nagar 7th Phase, is creating unhygienic and unpleasant conditions for residents.

Bull taming event Hori Habba gets green light

The Karnataka High Court has granted permission for the traditional bull-taming event Hori Habba to go ahead this year, while stressing that organisers must strictly follow the safety and animal welfare norms laid down by the Supreme Court for similar events.

Hori Habba, which resembles Jallikattu in Tamil Nadu, is widely celebrated in districts such as Shivamogga, Davangere, Haveri and Uttara Kannada.

Justice M Nagaprasanna directed that any approval issued by the authorities must "strictly conform to the conditions stipulated by the Apex Court regarding safety measures and the participation or use of animals, which in any event shall not run contrary to the provisions of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960."

The court cautioned that any violations or incidents during the festival would attract action under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act and other applicable laws. The case was heard following a petition filed by Akhila Karnataka Raitara Janapada Kreede Horihabba Horata Samithi, which sought directions for the state to permit a rally featuring bulls and bullock carts as part of the celebrations. Petitioners claimed authorities said approval would be granted only if they complied with the December 12, 2022 notification and its requirements.

Their counsel argued the 2022 notification isn't yet in effect and should guide their request, while the state maintained it remains valid for all applications. The court cited the Animal Welfare Board of India v. Union of India ruling, emphasizing that such festivals require strict safeguards and permissions must follow Apex Court guidelines, not just the notification. Police and district officials in Haveri and other areas were directed to ensure the event proceeds peacefully. **–BMB**

IN COURT

Varuna election petition: CM response sought

The Supreme Court on Monday sought a response from Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on a petition challenging his victory from the Varuna Assembly constituency in the 2023 state elections. The notice was issued by a bench comprising Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta, which agreed to examine allegations that promises made in the Congress manifesto amounted to corrupt electoral practices.

The petition, filed by Varuna voter K Shankara, contends that the "five guarantees" projected by the Congress during the 2023 campaign effectively served as inducements to voters and therefore violated provisions of the Representation of the People Act (RP Act). According to the petitioner, these welfare schemes — including free bus travel for women, monthly assistance for women heads of households, and enhanced power subsidies — should be viewed as a form of electoral bribery attributable to the party's candidate. Shankara has urged the Court to declare the Chief Minister's election void and to disqualify him from contesting elections for six years. He argues that the benefits promised were so substantial and targeted that they amounted to an unfair advantage influencing voter behaviour in Varuna.

Earlier, the Karnataka High Court dismissed the petition, ruling that party manifesto promises are not corrupt unless tied to a candidate's personal conduct, citing S Subramaniam Balaji v. State of Tamil Nadu. With the Supreme Court's notice, the case returns for national scrutiny, likely examining whether pre-poll welfare promises can be regulated and if candidates can be held personally liable. Siddaramaiah must file his response before the next hearing, which could impact election campaign norms nationwide. **–BMB**

'No procedures followed in capture of 184 strays'

Animal rights groups call out GBA for ignoring Supreme Court guidelines

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As many as 184 dogs had been captured without following proper procedures, animal activists revealed at a press conference on Monday. The activists warned that relocating the animals could lead to a rise in the city's rodent population.

They further suggested that the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) might be in contempt of court for hastily implementing the Supreme Court's order on street dogs. Residents were urged to speak out against what activists described as a "gross misuse" of taxpayers' money.

The activists stated that the GBA has been picking up dogs across the city and placing them in "temporary shelters" – a clear violation of the Supreme Court order and the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) standard operating procedure (SOP).

Sathwik Putta, a lawyer with South Bengaluru Cares, said, "The Supreme Court order requires designated shelters with specific dimensions, as determined under the AWBI SOP, to be fixed by the GBA. The temporary shelters proposed by the GBA, which are ABC centres, are not part of this procedure."

Vikash Bafna, founder of Friend for Animal Trust, said that animal activists met Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh and Commissioner Vikas Suralkar. "Commissioner Vikas Suralkar said that they would be picking up dogs and sending them to these temporary shelters. We implore you: please don't take any hasty decisions and risk contempt of the Supreme Court," he added.

The activists highlighted that research and studies show that Animal Birth Control (ABC) is the only humane and proven method to reduce stray dog populations, yet it remains poorly implemented across the state. Samyukta Hornad, actress and founder of Prana Foundation, said, "The Supreme Court order is completely illogical. What's worse is the GBA's implementation of it. They don't have kennels. These temporary shelters are merely ABC centres. If they are stuffed with healthy dogs, who will carry out ABC?"

Supreme Court order requires designated shelters with specific dimensions, as determined under the AWBI SOP, to be fixed by the GBA but the temporary shelters proposed by GBA, which are ABC centres, are not part of this procedure, activists say

Stray dog control: Lokayukta issues orders

The Karnataka Lokayukta on Monday reviewed the Greater Bengaluru Authority's progress in controlling the rising stray dog menace and directed strict compliance with the Supreme Court's ABC and ARV orders. Officials were warned that non-compliance would invite action. Animal husbandry departments submitted reports covering 2022–2025. The Deputy Director said 139 aggressive dogs had been isolated and 7,617 institutions would be mapped for compliance. A directive from the Chief Secretary instructing all state agencies to file compliance certificates on the SC's December 20, 2025 order was also recorded. Dog-bite incidents have risen across corporations over the past three months, though none involved rabies. North reported 44 cases, South 68, South (Zone 2) 26, West 63, Central 32, and East 41, with aggressive dogs isolated where needed. Two dogs died in an East shelter, prompting a safety review.

Alwyn Sebastian, an animal rights lawyer, said that the chronology of the Supreme Court order and the AWBI SOP, as to how it should be implemented by the GBA, is: identification, fencing, appointment of a nodal officer, vaccination and neutering, identification of designated permanent shelters, and only then catching dogs.

"But they are catching dogs before even fencing these identified areas," he said.

Mallika Menon, CARE trustee, said, "Time, funds, and infrastructure are required to build shelters and implement this order, which cannot be done in haste."

She added that the estimated cost for feeding and maintaining a shelter for 100 dogs is approximately Rs 3.5 lakh per month, covering meals, cleaning staff, disinfectants, para-veterinarians, and one vet on call, making the Supreme Court order logistically impossible.

Aniruddha Ravindra, of the Karnataka Animal Welfare Board, said, "If there is a reversal or modification of the order, what happens to the funds or the captured dogs? This is like the Tunnel Road project all over again. The actual problems, our roads and infrastructure, must be addressed."

Manjari Chaitanya, founder of South Bengaluru Cares, said, "They are moving these dogs to very rural areas, where ABC is not implemented as well as in the city, and where rabies cases are generally higher."

BangaloreMirror
Latest capture and relocation orders prove final straw for Animal Birth Control centres in city that are already stretched thin due to being forced to house 'aggressive' dogs; stray sterilisation campaign in peril, they warn
IT'S A DOG'S LIFE
Dire straits: ABC centres only able to operate at 80% capacity due to overload
BangaloreMirror
GBA's ₹3 lakh per month for dog shelters 'inadequate'
Welfare groups caution inadequate funds could create overcrowded, unhygienic shelters, compromising animal health, safety, long-term wellbeing citywide

BM has been keeping a close eye on the SC order and the fallout of it in the city

Giant sunspot lights up skies

An unusually long-lived cluster of sunspots is expected to remain in view for nearly ten days, offering city skywatchers a steady look at one of the most dynamic features of our star. Please note that looking directly at the Sun, even for a moment, is unsafe.

Sunspots form when concentrated magnetic fields block heat from the Sun's interior, creating cooler, darker patches on the photosphere. Large groups are rare, last seen in 1947 and 2014, and often drive solar flares and coronal mass ejections, which can trigger bright auroras on Earth. The sunspot's dark centre, or umbra, can reach 4,000°C, while the surrounding photosphere is around 6,300°C; the outer penumbra is slightly warmer than the umbra.

Sunspot numbers follow an eleven-year cycle, peaking at solar maximum. NASA reports a current active region nearly 14 Earth diameters wide has already produced several M-class flares, with a nearby region sending an M8.1 flare on December 6 toward Earth, potentially causing a strong geomagnetic storm. Observers are advised to use projection methods, welding glasses of shade 14+, or certified eclipse filters. **–BMB**

598 trees face the axe for 2 projects

The state government is preparing to cut down 598 more trees for two major projects in Bengaluru and Anekal, even as the city's green cover has already plunged from nearly 70 per cent in 1973 to just 3 per cent in 2023. The Public Works Department plans to cut 246 trees for a road project in Anekal. Authorities have invited public objections under the Karnataka Tree Preservation Act, while experts urge protection of Bengaluru's remaining greenery. There is also outcry over 168 trees slated for a new Art Centre at Nagadevanahalli, with environmentalists warning that Bangalore University's campus is steadily losing its greenery as institutional buildings continue to be allotted space there. **–BMB**

Kali reserve land diversion: Warning issued

The Standing Committee of the State Board for Wildlife has issued a conflicting decision on a proposal to divert 9.508 hectares of forest land in Kali Tiger Reserve (KTR) for a power transmission project. While it refused to recommend the proposal for an overground line, it also advised Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) to submit a fresh proposal for laying the line underground.

Minutes of the November meeting show that the committee relied on a detailed ground report by the Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF), who warned of severe ecological and environmental impacts if forest land in the Western Ghats is disturbed. The proposed diversion lies in the Castlerock Range, a stretch of undisturbed evergreen and semi-evergreen forests forming a crucial wildlife corridor between Karnataka and Goa.

The DCF's inspection highlighted that fragmentation here could disrupt wildlife movement and heighten

Forest link crucial for wildlife movement safety safeguarded

human–animal conflict in nearby villages. The steep, high-rainfall terrain is also prone to soil erosion, landslides, and stream sedimentation if vegetation is cleared. Overhead transmission lines add risks of bird collisions and electrocution.

Despite these concerns, the committee suggested sending the proposal to the National Board for Wildlife and exploring an underground alternative. Conservationists argue that underground lines would also require trenching and blasting, causing comparable damage. "The decision is ambiguous," a conservationist said.

–BMB

'Panel probing blackbuck deaths, all zoos on high alert'

Forest Minister assures legislators action would be taken based on committee's findings, wildlife conservation measures in place at zoos

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In the ongoing winter session of the state legislature, Karnataka Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre has stated that a high-level committee has been formed to conduct an investigation into the death of 31 blackbucks at Kittur Rani Channamma Zoological Park between November 13 and 17.

Khandre said all necessary measures have been taken to ensure wildlife conservation across Karnataka's zoos and reiterated that a high-level committee is already probing the incident. He added that it would not be appropriate to penalise officials who have otherwise performed well, but assured that action would be taken based on the committee's findings.

According to wildlife mortality data from zoos across the state, 6.2% of captive wildlife died in 2021–22. The mortality rate dropped to 4.5% in 2022–23, rose slightly to 4.76% in 2023–24, and declined again to 3.25% in 2024–25. In 2025–26, the mortality rate stood at 2.42%.

The death of 31 blackbucks at the Belagavi zoo prompted immediate concern, with the Forest, Ecology and Environment Department clarifying that the animals succumbed to a bacterial infection showing symptoms consistent with haemorrhagic septicaemia (HS). A preliminary post-mortem report indicated extensive haemorrhagic lesions, suggesting rapid bacterial spread and the possibility of death occurring within hours.

However, wildlife conservationists have raised alarm over the scale of the mortality, calling it unprecedented for a zoo and urging a thorough investigation by the Central Zoo Authority (CZA). The CZA has also taken cognisance of the incident and written to Karnataka's Chief Wildlife Warden seeking a detailed report within 15 days of the letter issued on November 26.

Officials highlighted difficulties in vaccinating sensitive blackbucks, noting that fear and stress during capture can itself be fatal for the species

According to wildlife mortality data from zoos across the state, 6.2% of captive wildlife died in 2021–22. The mortality rate dropped to 4.5% in 2022–23, rose slightly to 4.76% in 2023–24, and declined again to 3.25% in 2024–25. In 2025–26, the mortality rate stood at 2.42%

Responding to questions from legislators on December 8, Khandre said the disease is commonly found in herbivores and often presents no visible external symptoms. Doctors have noted that infected animals may die within 6 to 24 hours of contracting the infection, which, he said, explains the high number of deaths.

Khandre said he immediately deployed expert veterinarians from Bengaluru after learning of the incident. Quarantine measures were implemented for infected animals, and sanitation protocols were strengthened to contain the spread. He also informed the House that Karnataka's zoos collectively house 322 blackbucks, and precautions are now in place to prevent further infections.

While most zoo animals are vaccinated, he noted that vaccinating blackbucks remains challenging as they are highly sensitive and may die from stress if physically restrained.

6 K'taka cities top clean-air rankings

A national assessment of 225 cities has found 114 meeting good air-quality standards, with six from Karnataka ranking high. Shillong in Meghalaya tops the list, followed by Gangtok in Sikkim. Karnataka's Koppal and Chamarajanagar secure third and fourth places, while Shivamogga, Gadag, Mysuru and Bagalkot also feature in the top ten, along with Palakkad in Tamil Nadu and Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala. **–BMB**

State cracks down on Annapurna rice rackets

In a major crackdown on illegal activities linked to the Annapurna rice scheme, authorities have arrested 570 people across Karnataka, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Minister KH Muniyappa told the Assembly during the Belagavi session on Monday. Officials have seized 29,603.15 quintals of rice and 314 vehicles used for hoarding and illicit sale. The minister said strict supervision and regular inspections are underway, with criminal cases being registered under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Ration cardholders found misusing subsidised rice will have their cards cancelled, he warned. Vigilance committees have been formed at fair-price shop, taluk, district and state levels to monitor smooth distribution. Awareness campaigns are also being conducted, while a state-level Food Awareness Squad has been constituted to act against violations in accordance with the law. **–BMB**

BM Trippin' Tales — Consumer Connect Initiative

Hidden Hoogyam Dam offers tranquil escape beyond Bengaluru's beaten paths

Only about 200 km from B'luru, dam remains untouched by commercial tourism, offering quiet landscape dotted with small villages

Sridhar.Vivan
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Hoogyam Dam does not feature on the usual tourist lists, yet it offers the kind of calm that many city dwellers seek. Set on a local seasonal stream and surrounded by hills on all sides, the dam is one of those places where the journey is as compelling as the destination. Even though it lies only about 200 kilometres from Bengaluru, Hoogyam remains largely untouched by commercial tourism, offering a quiet landscape dotted with small villages and free from the rush and noise that define most weekend getaways around the city.

The route to Hoogyam takes travellers through Kollegal and towards Ramapura, from where a narrow road branches off towards the dam. A small stretch of the road remains in poor condition, marked by broken patches and uneven surfaces that slow travel considerably. Local drivers often caution that the final leg of the journey requires patience rather than speed. Yet, for many who undertake the trip, the rough ride becomes part of the charm, offering an early sense of stepping away from the city's pace.

Travellers pass sombre memorial plaques honouring officers killed by Veerappan, linking the serene landscape to the region's turbulent forest history

As the road moves deeper into the countryside, the landscape shifts gradually. Dry terrain gives way to clusters of trees, and the hills rise gently before forming a ring around the reservoir. The changing scenery is compelling, but what makes the route particularly striking are the unexpectedly sombre reminders of the region's past. Along the way stand several plaques installed in memory of forest and police officers killed by Veerappan and his gang. Each plaque bears the name of an officer who died during operations in this once-volatile forest belt. These markers offer a moment of pause for travellers, connecting the serene surroundings with a history marked by conflict and loss.

Once the road opens into the villages near the dam, the setting turns increasingly picturesque. Hoogyam Dam itself is modest in scale, built across a seasonal stream that fills generously during the monsoon. The water spreads gently toward the surrounding hills, creating a valley-like appearance that shifts in colour with the light. There are no commercial activities around the area—no stalls, no boating facilities, and no typical tourist infrastructure. This absence contributes to its appeal for visitors seeking quiet, unspoiled spaces. On most days, only a handful of local residents, farmers passing by, or occasional nature enthusiasts are seen along the embankment.

The villages surrounding the dam further enhance its charm. Life here moves at a slower pace: cattle graze near the water's edge, children make their way home from school along mud paths, and women collect firewood or tend to small farmlands.

‘Whether in the skies or on rails, worker fatigue means danger’

Aviation crisis mirrors issues faced by loco pilots in Railways: Union

The crisis caused in the aviation sector by the disruption in IndiGo’s operations closely mirrors the long-standing issues faced by loco pilots in Indian Railways due to a similar demand for a scientifically-designed working atmosphere for operational safety, a prominent loco pilot union said on Monday.

INFOCUS RAILWAYS WORKERS

The All India Loco Running Staff Association, which represents a significant section of running crew, said that the IndiGo controversy is not just an aviation issue, it is a “warning” for all high-risk industries.

“Whether in the skies or on the rails, worker fatigue directly translates into dangers to passenger safety. Regulations based on modern sleep science are not mere ‘union demands’ to skip from duty. But, they are demands of safety standards,” K C James, Secretary General, AILRSA, said in a statement.

“The present aviation crisis should become an eye-opener to railway management. The lives of millions of passengers depend more on the alertness of loco pilots than on airlines, because technical advancement in Railways is far inferior to airways,” he said.

Amidst the aviation crisis, the union reiterated its demands like a maximum of two continuous night duties; rational duty hours aligned with human physiology and adequate rest after every duty, along with weekly rest. It also cited various rail accident investigations that have flagged the odd working hours of the crew.

File photo of a train being washed by the Automatic Coach Washing Plant at the City railway station

“Many high-level committees -- from the Anil Kakodkar Safety Review Committee 2012, to parliamentary panels like the Tripathi committee (HPC 2013) -- have repeatedly recommended scientific working hour regulations for loco pilots. Yet the Railway Board has refused to implement them, citing operational constraints,” James said.

He also highlighted the “unlawful curtailment of daily rest” which, according to him, was prohibited by the High Court of Karnataka in 2010.

Questioning the government’s handling of the aviation crisis, James said that every agitation by workers in any public sector or government-run industry is often met with disciplinary action, charge sheets or suppression by “invoking all sorts of black rules” and citing the convenience of the travelling people or transportation of essential goods.

“But when large private corporations resist safety regulations, the government kneels before their dictums, even neglecting the safety of the system,” he alleged. —PTI

‘Hawaii slippers flying at officials’

Karnataka Rural Development Minister Priyank Kharge took a dig at Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the mass cancellation of IndiGo flights across India, which triggered operational disruptions and widespread anger among passengers.

Minister Kharge remarked that while the Prime Minister once said people wearing Hawai chappals would be able to fly, now Hawai chappals are flying at officials in the airport.”

He further alleged that the DGCA has fallen into a trap of duopoly and that the government’s lack of accountability is hurting citizens.

“DGCA has unwillingly fallen into the trap of duopoly. The lack of response (of IndiGo) and lack of responsibility of the government is hurting the citizens more. PM Modi said a person wearing Hawaii slippers will be flying while today, Hawaii slippers are flying at the officials at the airport...,” Kharge told reporters.

Earlier on Monday, Union Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu addressed the ongoing IndiGo crisis in the Rajya Sabha, saying the issues faced by passengers were linked to the airline’s internal crew rostering and operational planning, and not the Aircraft Maintenance and Scheduling System (AMSS). ANI

SOCIALTATTLE

That went viral

A post was shared on X by user @ravikeerthi22, stating that a bench made from 100% recycled used plastic (Bisleri bottle caps) was seen at CFTRI, Mysuru.

Zohra Jabeen
@terizohrajabeen
Follow
Much needed community in Bangalore!!!
Aditya Oberai @adityaoberai · 21h
glimpses from our photo walk in malleshwaram today
8:40 am · 08 Dec 25 · 8,124 Views

What’s Tweeting: A post was shared on X by user @terizohra jabeen, stating that a much-needed community in Bengaluru was highli ghted, along with pictures of dogs, cats, flowers and other city snapshots.

INBRIEF

Venkatesh Prasad wins KSCA presidential election

Former Indian cricketer Venkatesh Prasad was elected President of the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) on Sunday. Former India cricketer Sujith Somasunder has been elected Vice-President, while Santosh Menon has been chosen as Secretary, a post he earlier held from 2019 to 2022.

Venkatesh Prasad won the election, defeating K N Shanta Kumar by 191 votes. Prasad secured 749 votes, while Shanta Kumar received 558 votes.

Former umpire BK Ravi has been elected as Joint Secretary, winning with 669 votes, while BN Madhukar got the better of MS Vinay for the post of Treasurer, winning with 736 votes.

Prasad earlier served as KSCA vice president from 2010 to 2013 and played 33 Tests and 161 ODIs for India.

The KSCA elections, which were originally scheduled for November 30, were deferred. Prasad had voiced his deep shock and disappointment over the abrupt postponement of the elections. —ANI

No-confidence: ‘Will go by rules’

Amid speculation about the ruling Congress planning to move a no-confidence motion against him, Legislative Council Chairman Basavaraj Horatti on Monday said he will abide by the decision of the House, and go by rules regarding the matter.

Horatti also clarified that he has resigned from the primary membership of the BJP, as soon as he was elected as the Chairman in 2022.

Sources said Congress wants to have its own member as the Chairman, with the numbers now stacked in its favour in the upper house of the legislature. In the 75-member Council, there are 37 Congress members, an equal number for the NDA (including the Chairman) and an independent Lakhan Jarkiholi, who is believed to be inclined towards Congress.

“Whether there is majority support or not, it is a matter left to the government and the House. It is not related to me. What is decided in the House is final, as the House is supreme. I cannot say anything about that. I will have to abide by the decision of the House. I will abide by it,” Horatti said. —PTI

BIZBUZZ

1B approvals for Indian IT fall to a 10-year low

The top seven Indian IT services companies recorded only 4,573 new H-1B approvals in FY 2025, a 70% decline from around 15,270 approvals in 2015 and 37% fewer than in FY 2024, according to a National Foundation for American Policy (NFAP) analysis based on USCIS employer data. This marks the sharpest downturn in a decade and comes at a time of significant changes in US visa policy.

The shift reflects a broader realignment in the skilled immigration landscape.

US technology firms — Amazon, Meta, Microsoft, and Google — now occupy the top four positions for initial H-1B approvals for the first time, indicating growing preference for US-based employers in the competition for high-skilled talent.

While new approvals for Indian IT firms have declined, continuing-employment petitions remain steady. USCIS approved 291,542 continuing-employment H-1B petitions in FY 2025, with a low rejection rate of 1.9%. For Indian companies, this stability highlights a shift toward retaining existing H-1B workers rather than sponsoring new ones.

—ET Online

Starlink announces India prices

Elon Musk’s Starlink has moved a step closer to its commercial launch in India by placing full residential pricing on its local website.

The updated page shows the monthly charge at ₹8,600. Reportedly, customers are also required to buy a hardware kit priced at ₹34,000 as a one-time purchase. The plan comes with unlimited

data and a 30-day trial window to allow new users enough time to test how the service performs in their area.

The website lists several features for the residential package, which include a plug-and-play setup, uptime of more than 99.9 per cent, weather resistance and no data limits. While the consumer-focused plan now has complete pricing, Starlink has yet to disclose what it intends to charge for the business tier.

—ET Online

Obstructed exits, non-functional equipment most common lapses

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

culture. "A venue can be vibrant without compromising on fire resistant materials. The attitude must change from patchwork fixes to long term planning," said a senior Fire and Emergency Services official. Routine checks of wiring, exhaust ducts, LPG storage and stage electricals can prevent unseen hazards. Another officer added, "Exits must stay clear and unlocked at all times. Patrons should never struggle to locate a way out."

Building codes require nightlife venues to maintain at least two remote exits of sufficient width, working hydrants, extinguishers, sprinklers and smoke detectors. Emergency lighting and visible signage must operate throughout business hours. Kitchens need proper ventilation to avoid grease fires. Inspecting teams say the most common violations are obstructed exits, non functional equipment, decorative materials that fail fire retardant norms and overloaded wiring hidden behind panels, officialsa said.

Seasonal warning

With Christmas and New Year approaching, Bengaluru police have instructed all pubs, clubs and event spaces to recheck their fire safety measures. Patrols will be increased across the city's main party corridors. "People step out to celebrate. Ensuring they return home safely is the responsibility of every venue," said a senior police officer.

Bengaluru, Hyderabad can support each other to build better India: DKS

Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Monday said Bengaluru and Hyderabad, major technology hubs in the country, are not competitors, but they can support each other to build a better India.

Shivakumar, who spoke at the two-day Telangana Rising Global Summit organised by the state government here, also said the country would rise further when the southern states make rapid progress.

He said that he thought Telangana is competing with Bengaluru and Karnataka, but it is not so. The state is competing "globally".

Shivakumar, who congratulated Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy

for completing two years in office, said the entire south stands with him for the progress of the country "to match the world".

"Today, I am not here only as Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka, but as a proud voice for bidding the south... I could see the vision you (Telangana) have. It is a global vision. I know Telangana is a small state, not like Karnataka," he said.

The IT exports from Bengaluru are about 43 per cent of total exports from the country and Telangana could be little less. However, the Telangana government's vision is big and he was glad to attend the event, he said.

"When we talk about India's technology story, it is impossible to tell the story without speaking about Bengaluru and Hyderabad together. So, let us all join together. People have tried to frame Bengaluru and Hyderabad as the competitors. But, truth is more powerful. We are not competitors. We support each other. We grow each other and build better India and the entire world," he said. **PTI**

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CHANGE OF NAME

I Ambiga D/O, Natesan R/o No 19 4th Cross Muddamma Garden Benson Town Post Bengaluru 560046 have changed my name to Mary Virgin.

I, Rajashekar Ramalingegowda, s/o Ramalingegowda R/o No 174, 4th Main Road, 4th Cross, Sriranganagara BSK 3rd Stage, B'luru-560085, Have Changed my name to Rajshekar Ramalingegowda for all Purposes.

I, HUMAIRA BANU KHADAR ALI, W/o Mohammed Idrees Qasimi, R/at. No.42, 8th Cross, 4th Main, Wisdom School, HBR Layout, Yaseen Nagar, 1 Stage, 2nd Block, Bangalore 560043. Do hereby declare that in further for all purpose I have changed my name From HUMAIRA BANU KHADAR ALI To HUMAIRA BANU, Vide Affidavit Dated 05.11.2025 sworn before Notary- M Rajendra –Bangalore.

WE Saranssh Giriiya and Sonam Giriya R/a No - 64, Savera 2nd Floor, Sannidhi Road, Basvangudi, Bengaluru 560004 have changed my minor son s name from Aarav Giriya to Aarav Jain. Aarav jain (new name) and Aarav Giriya (old name) vide affidavit 28.03.2025 before Notary Hemalatha Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I **Bhavish P** S/O Prakash V Resident Of # 2318, 2nd Main Road, 2nd Cross, Vivekananda Nagar, Bangarapet - 563114, I State That I Have Changed my Name From **Bhavesh P** To **Bhavish P** Vide Affidavit Dated 05.9.2025 Sworn Before **V.B.Prasad** Notary Public At Bangarapet Court hall.

I, Ghani Sheriff Khader Sheriff R/at No.24/6, Bore Bank Road, Benson Town, Bangalore-560046, Have Changed My Name To K S Ghani Shariff, For All Purposes.

I Gangadhar S/O, Papaiah 181 35th Main 4th Cross Sas Road Sarakki Garden J P Nagar 6th P Bangalore South have changed my name to Gangadhara Papaiah

I Suhas Bindinganavale Ramadas S/O, Ramadas.b.s R/o N0-1263,7th Cross,3rd Main,chandra Layout, Vijayanagar Post, Bengaluru-560040 have changed my name to Suhas Bindiganavile Ramadas.

I Dhefaku Hari Babu S/O, Dhepaku Lakshumaiah R/o #80, Sri Venkateshwara Nilayam, 5th B Cross, Chikka Banaswadi Road, Bengaluru-560043 have changed my name to Hari Babu Dhepaku.

I, Athish Ravi Gowda s/o Ravi Kumar Narayan R/o 1091, 2nd Cross, 60 Feet Road, Upkar Layout, Ullalu, Bengaluru 560056 have changed my name to AATHISH RAVI. I shall be called by this name for all purposes

I Yamini Navya Kumari Gudimetla R/O 301,Suprama Colonial Apartment, 4th cross Tulasi LayoutKasavanahalli ,Bangalore-560035,have changed my daughter's (minor) name from C. Aadhya Sindhuja Tejaswi to G. Aadhya Tejaswi

I, Gulam Hussain Abdul Vahab, R/o at Sterling Ascentia, #6014 Marathahalli Sarjapur ORR Bellandur B'lore -560103 have changed my name to Gulam Hussain Pathan vide affidavit date 05/12/25 sworn before notary J. Anand Kumar B'lore.

I, AYESHA LIYAKAT MULLA W/o Syed Sharoof R/O Flat number 102, Iqra heights # 1317.32F cross 4th T block Jayanagar, Bangalore 560041 Have changed my name to Aisha Fatima for all Purposes.

I, Mary Vazhappilly Chakkath Lonappan, D/o Lonappan, Residing at 2501, SBR Horizon, Vastu Bhoomi, Seegehalli, Kannamangala PO, Bengaluru, changed my Name as Mary Baby.

I, S B Narasu, w/o C D Nagaraj, R/o No-76, 1st Cross 13th Main BEL Layout 2nd Stage Balaji Layout Magadi Main Road Bengaluru-560091 Have Changed my name to Neethu Nagaraj vide Affidavit Dt:08/12/2025 Before Notary B S Padmaprasad B'luru.

I, Arockia Swamy Gnanamani R/o #201 Prajan Elite No-242,2nd Floor,1st Main Road HBR layout B'lore-560043 have changed my name to Arokia Swamy Gnanamani.

I Vaishali A Dave W/o Kalpesh Dave r/o #203, Indra Nagar, Bhavani Nagar Keshwapur Dharwad Karnataka-580023 have changed my name to Vaishali Dave.

I Akshay Sarashetti S/O, Prabhu Sarashetti R/o N0-448/a,5th Main,6th Cross, M S R Nagar, Bengaluru-560054 have changed my name to Akshay Prabhu Sarashetti.

I Shafiulla Shaik Hussain S/O, Shaik Hussain Sab R/o No 1330 C B Pur Main Road Rahamath Nagar Near Abbu Bakar Masjid Kolar Karnataka 563101 have changed my name to Shafiulla.

I Byregowda S/O, Gangaiah R/o N0-191, bairaveshwara Nilaya,6th Cross,shanthilal Mutha Layout,seegehalli Cross,kadabagere,bengaluru-562130 have changed my name to Byregowda Gangaiah.

I, ASHRAF UNNISSA, R/a. 3rd Block Old Town Bethamangala 5636116. I, have Changed my name to ASHRUF UNNISSA, Vide affidavit, dated 06/12/2025 Sworn before Notary: Prakasha. C. Bangalore

I V CHOKSHAA D/O J VIJAYANAND r/o #219,2nd stage Govinayakanahalli Halli 15F Bus stop Kumarswamy Layout Bangalore 560078 I have changed my name to CHOKSHAA VIJAYANAND For all purposes.

I, MOHAMMED SAJJAD, R/a 30, 1st Flr Amber Vista Apts, Green Orchands Lyt, BHEL Lyt, SRK Garden Bengalur-41, I, have Correction my mother name in my passport From HALLEMABANU to HALEEMA BANU

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Litterbugs slipping in through gaps in wall

PICS: KAUSHIK JN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Bangalore Development Authority, and the District Magistrate, Bengaluru.

Following the suo motu, the case was taken up by the southern bench in August, and the tribunal directed the agencies to submit a report on the matter.

BM's article had highlighted how one of Bengaluru's last few lung spaces, which is an ecological buffer that helps maintain Bengaluru's groundwater levels, controls soil erosion, and supports urban biodiversity, is choking due to unchecked garbage dumping.

The article also stated that the garbage dumped includes non-biodegradable waste, especially plastics, disintegrated micro and nano particles that seep into the food chain, endangering wildlife and human health. Moreover, despite cleanup efforts, Turahalli forest faces ongoing illegal dumping.

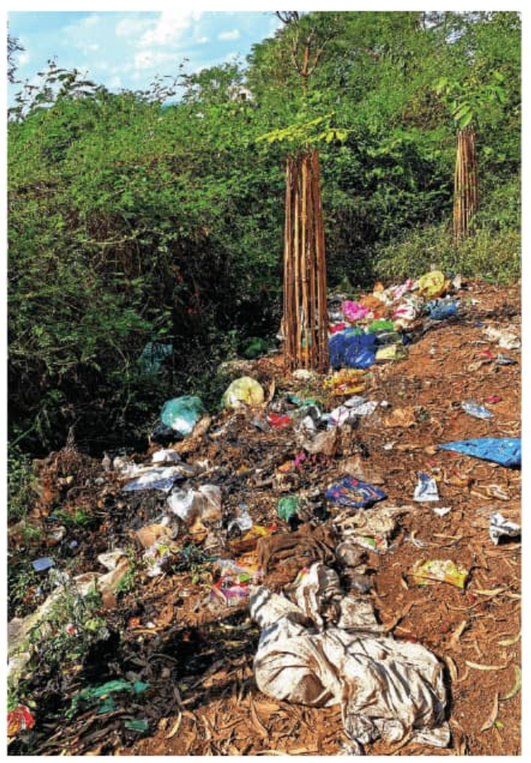
Locals say the Reserve Forest in front of the JSS Academy of Technical Education has been left vulnerable due to a wall collapse months ago, but has not been repaired, leading to unabated littering.

"The wall protecting the forest towards JSS Academy of Technical Education collapsed long ago, and that opening is being used by private builders mostly to dump construction waste. That area has every kind of muck being dumped inside the forest. Garbage is spread around 10 to 15 feet from the wall towards the forest," said Joseph Hoover, former member of the State Board of Wildlife and founder of the United Conservation Movement and Charitable Trust.

The compound wall at multiple other locations has also suffered damage, locals say.

"These are easy entry points for people to walk inside and dump garbage. Moreover, these openings also lead to wildlife venturing out of the forest area and getting killed on roads," said a local.

"The wall protecting the forest towards JSS Academy of Technical Education collapsed long ago, and that opening is being used by private builders mostly to dump construction waste. That area has every kind of muck being dumped inside the forest



HEALTH TIP: Kefir is a probiotic-rich fermented milk that aids digestion, boosts immunity, and is easier to digest for those with mild lactose intolerance

Naturally fermented pickles are low-calorie, antioxidant-rich, and packed with probiotics that boost gut health, and nutrient absorption

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Tuesday, December 9, 2025
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WOMEN IN STEROID CULTURE

Rising numbers of women are turning to performance drugs, reshaping long-held assumptions and prompting urgent calls for tailored health responses

When people think of gym-goers using steroids, the picture that comes to mind is often of a man pumping iron, like Arnold Schwarzenegger, or modern-day shirtless masculinity influencers such as "the Liver King".

But the image is changing. Women now represent a growing share of people who use steroids. Harm-minimisation efforts, currently targeted at men, will therefore need to change as well.

It's not just men

Research shows women are increasingly represented among steroid-using communities, even though precise long-term trend data are limited.

A 2024 systematic review of international studies found about 4% of adult women had used anabolic steroids at least once, up from 1.6% in 2014.

Among women bodybuilders, nearly 17% – around one in six – report using steroids, and rates among women in strength sports or recreational lifting communities are also markedly higher than in the general female population.

This emerging evidence suggests the gender profile of steroid use is shifting, even if precise historical rates are not available to confirm the exact scale of the increase.

While Australia does not have robust national statistics, data show the weight of steroids seized nationally increased by 1,372% between 2011–12 and 2020–21 (from 33.7 kilograms to 496.8kg).

This trend almost certainly mirrors what is happening overseas: continued, escalating growth of the bodybuilding and fitness communities, including among women in amateur strength sports.

The boom in women's strength training and weightlifting since 2021 will benefit the physical and mental health of most who take part in it.

But the simultaneous increase in steroid use may be cause for concern without effective harm reduction via education, health promotion and engagement with health services.

Three reasons more women are using them

The reasons are complex, but three stand out.

First, the rise of strength sports. Women's participation in powerlifting, weightlifting and bodybuilding has grown rapidly in Australia since the early 2020s.

These sports have opened up new spaces for women to feel strong, confident and physically capable. But they also expose women to online communities where performance-enhancing drugs are normalised.

Second, the influence of social media. Platforms such as Instagram, TikTok and YouTube are filled with "fitfluencers" showcasing dramatic transformations. Many of these women are seeking the "perfect body".

Some openly promote steroid cycles and other chemical shortcuts. Women who follow these influencers – often for training or nutrition advice – can end up in online spaces where performance-enhancing drugs are normal.

Third, many women are being encouraged or "brought into" the use of performance-enhancing drugs by others. Qualitative research shows women often start using steroids through male friends, partners or coaches, who may position these drugs as necessary for progress or competition.

Of course, taking any performance- or image-enhancing drug is not without risks.

The dangers are real

While steroids carry risks for everyone, women may face unique and irreversible side effects. These include:

- facial and body-hair growth
- deepening of the voice
- menstrual changes or infertility
- reduction of breast tissue
- acne and hair loss
- clitoral enlargement
- severe mood changes, including anxiety and irritability.

Beyond these risks, emerging research shows another danger: many underground steroid products contain toxic contaminants such as lead, arsenic and cadmium – substances linked to cancer, organ damage and cardiovascular disease.

The biggest long-term risks are the ones people rarely talk about: heart disease, stroke, liver damage and mental-health problems.

Interviews with women who use steroids show many are less informed than men about these dangers, often because the research has historically focused on male use.

There is also the issue of stigma. Women report being judged more harshly than men when seeking medical help, and some avoid health services entirely.

That leaves them more vulnerable to complications.

How do we turn this trend around?

Policing steroid use alone won't work, nor will telling women to "just say no." Evidence points to three approaches:

Health-focused education for women – provide clear, shame-free resources about risks.

Meet women online – use social media and credible female fitness influencers to share accurate info.

Reduce healthcare stigma – train clinicians to respond without judgement, making support more accessible.

(By Samuel Cornell, UNSW Sydney and Timothy Piatkowski, The University of Queensland, The Conversation)

MIRRORLIGHTS

Clearing confusion around tumours and true cancer

The terms "tumour" and "cancer" refer to different types of lumps, but they are often confused – by the public and even health professionals. Doctors may use euphemisms such as "tumour", "mass", "lesion" or "spot" when they actually mean cancer. Using the right term matters.

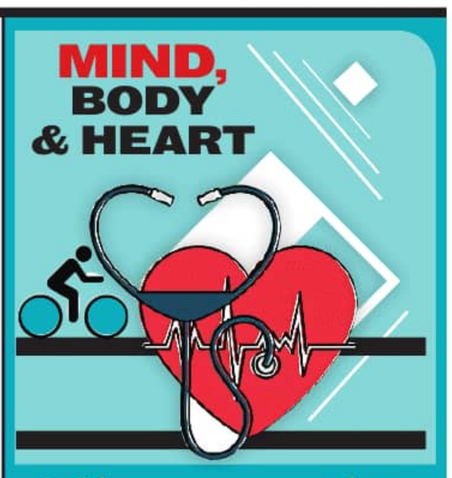
A tumour is defined as any abnormal swelling. Tumours can develop in almost any tissue, including fat, muscle and bone.

But not all tumours are cancer, and not all cancers form tumours. Tumours may be benign (not cancer) or malignant (cancer). Some benign tumours, such as lipomas or haemangiomas, are harmless, while others, such as uterine fibroids or pituitary adenomas, can cause problems because of their location and may need treatment.

Cancer develops when normal cells acquire mutations that allow them to escape the body's usual control systems. Cancer cells can invade nearby tissues and spread to other sites (metastasis). These features distinguish malignant tumours from benign ones. Solid cancers, such as breast or lung cancer, form masses, but blood cancers like leukaemia usually do not. Both tumours and cancers can cause lumps or symptoms depending on their location. Imaging such as ultrasound, CT or MRI may be needed, and samples examined by a pathologist help determine whether a tumour is benign or malignant.

Management varies: some tumours are surgically removed, while cancer may need urgent surgery, radiotherapy, or chemotherapy. Misusing "tumour" and "cancer" confuses patients—less than half understand euphemisms. Clear language is crucial: malignant tumours are cancers, but not all tumours are malignant.

(By Sarah Sasson, UNSW Sydney, and Megan Barnet, Garvan Institute, The Conversations)



All you need to know about...

Growth-oriented habits

Indian women juggle work, home, children, and personal life, often feeling mentally and physically drained, especially with hormonal changes. Small, consistent habits—diet, exercise, and sleep—help maintain health, balance, and energy, says Dr Lipsa Shah, Ayurveda consultant at Saifee Hospital, Mumbai.

15 small but transformative habits:

- Eat healthy, warm, fresh food – Supports digestion, metabolism, hormone balance.
- Have seasonal, regional fruits – Boosts immunity, nutrient absorption, hormone stability.
- Consume leafy vegetables – Rich in iron, folate, magnesium, antioxidants; prevents anaemia.
- Use ginger regularly – Improves digestion, circulation, eases menstrual cramps.
- Avoid high-fat/sugar processed foods – Reduces insulin resistance, inflammation, hormonal disruption.
- Use natural sugars – Black raisins, figs, jaggery for steady energy.
- Castor oil for PMS – 10 ml with warm water before menstruation alleviates discomfort.
- Beetroot–tomato–ginger–curry leaves juice – Supports blood health, circulation, liver detox, regular cycles.
- Spices: Cumin, fennel, carom – Aid digestion, metabolism, insulin regulation.
- Avoid smoking & alcohol – Reduce inflammation, protect reproductive health.
- Reduce caffeine – Improves sleep, hormone stability.
- Prioritise undisturbed sleep – Regulates cortisol, melatonin, mood, cycles.
- Sleep 10 pm–6 am – Aligns circadian rhythm, liver repair.
- Exercise regularly – Improves circulation, metabolism, PMS, weight, hormones.
- Yoga asanas & breathing – Aid digestion, blood flow, emotional balance.

—Femina

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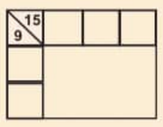
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

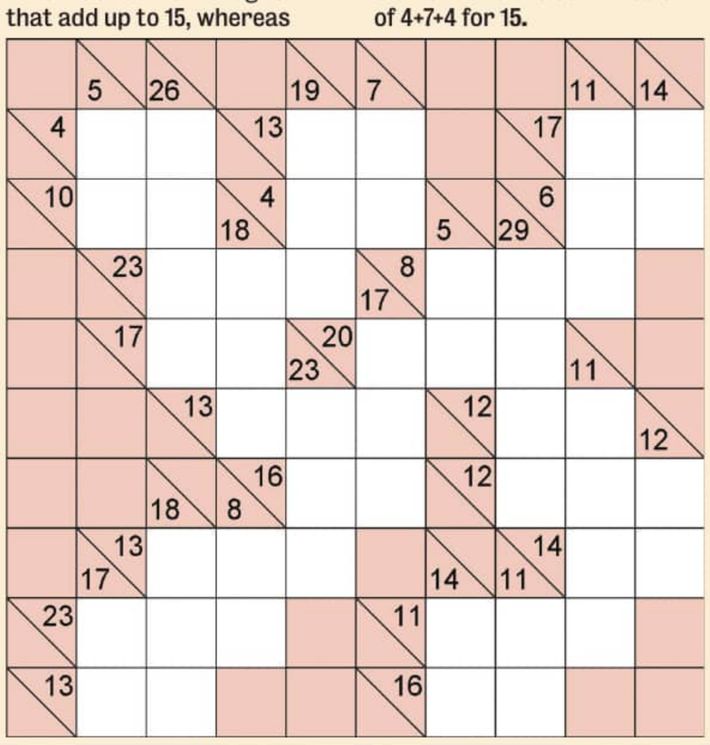
X is a number formed by juxtaposing the 4 single digit prime numbers.
√(X–3232)=50
What is X?

Kakuro

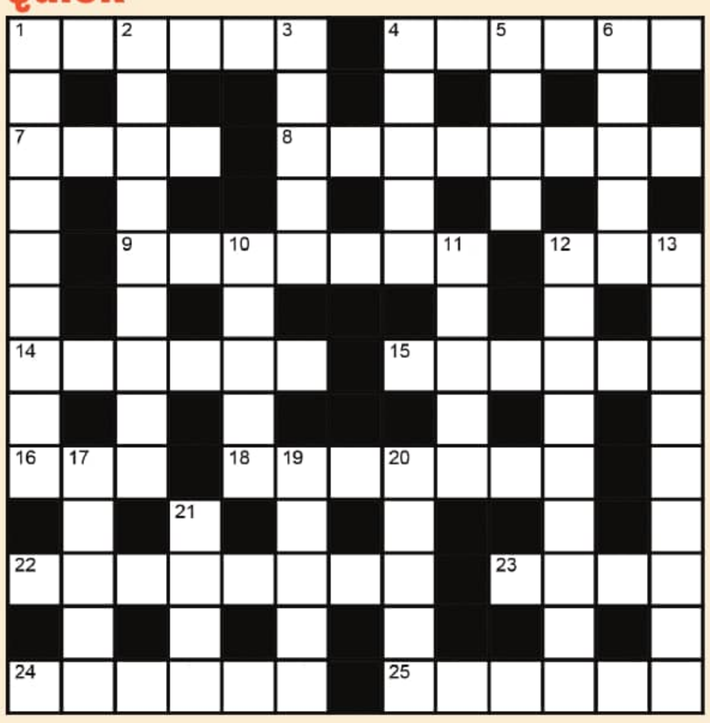
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Injured slightly? (6)
4 Earnestly attempt (6)
7 Arabian sultanate (4)
8 Holding firmly (8)
9 Own or have (7)
12 160 in Roman numerals (3)
14 Absorbed (4,2)
15 Answer back (6)
16 Bull periods (3)
18 Grumbles or complains (7)
22 Chinese province popular for it's spicy cuisine (8)
23 Fiddling emperor (4)
24 Vocation (6)
25 Disconcert (6)

DOWN

1 Rice noodle delicacy of Karnataka (4,5)
2 Gold medallists (9)
3 Noted Impressionist (5)
4 Sea vessels (5)
5 Engrossed (4)
6 Records (5)
10 David's weapon (5)
11 Appears to be? (5)
12 Wrinkles at the corner of the eye (5-4)
13 One disliking foreigners (9)
17 Popular Italian dish (5)
19 Oarsman? (5)
20 Relating to a forearm bone (5)
21 Highest point (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: W EQUALS O

DYPH NYP RWWXT WB WII-WXNAHVNO TDVHC WIPH, DP EATN EJUP TAXP NYJN DP JXP HWN NWW RXAHU WX NWW VHRVBBPXPHN NW DJMU NYXWACY.

Linemaro

Why would I need to know about the solar system? My whole world revolves around you

Mindchow

With true friends, even water drunk together is sweet

Joke of the day

When a person says, 'I'll think it over and let you know,' --- you know

Loop

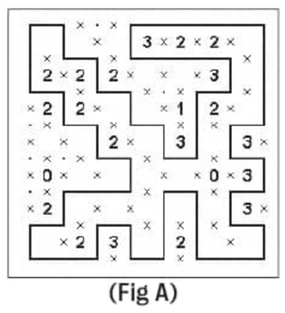
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

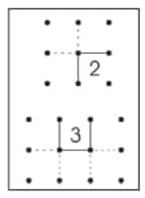
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

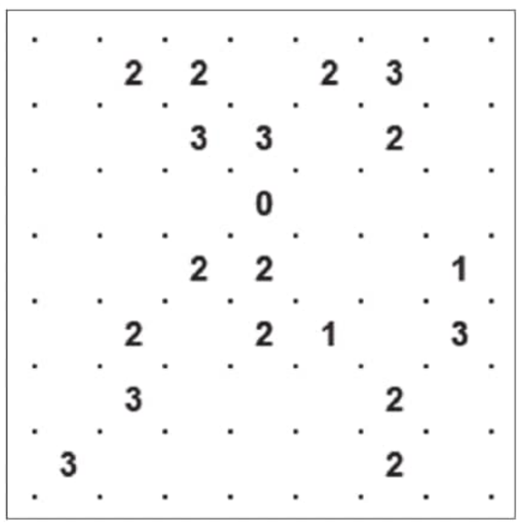
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



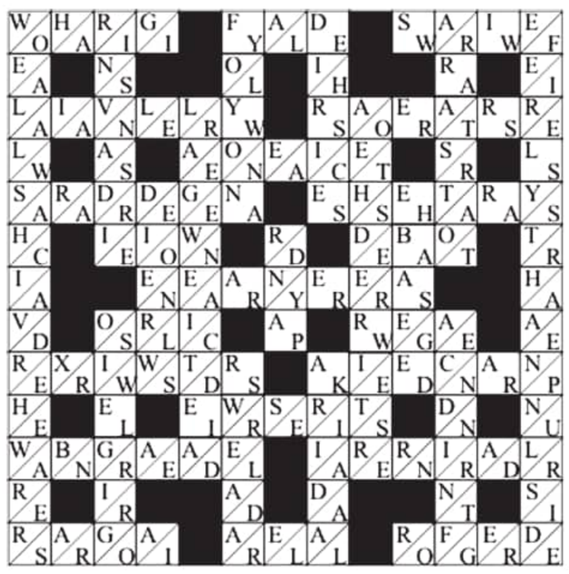
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1 K	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9				

ACROSS

1 Stark; 6 Medea; 7 Sob mo; 8 A be at; 9 Web do

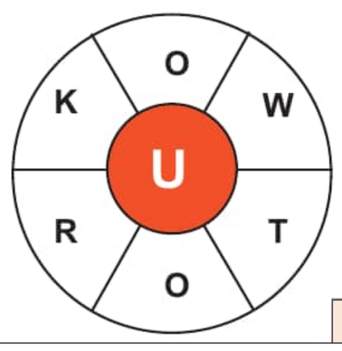
DOWN

1 Bake B; 2 Boa do; 3 Wears; 4 Met so; 5 Mated

Mensapuzzle

Which letter is missing from the last star?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

01 Average; **02** Good; **03** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	2	3				6		
4			6			3	2	
		7			5			9
1		4			2			
			8	6	3			
			4			5		8
9			2			7		
	7	2			6			4
		1				8	3	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

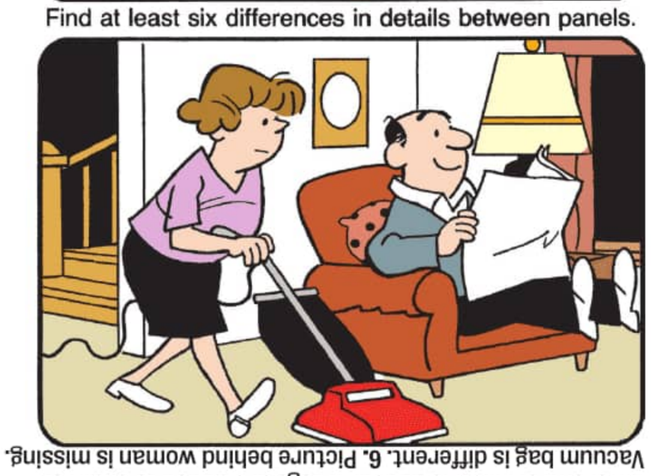
Easy = 15
7 7 8 9

Medium = 19
1 1 3 6

Hard = 39
3 4 4 5

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



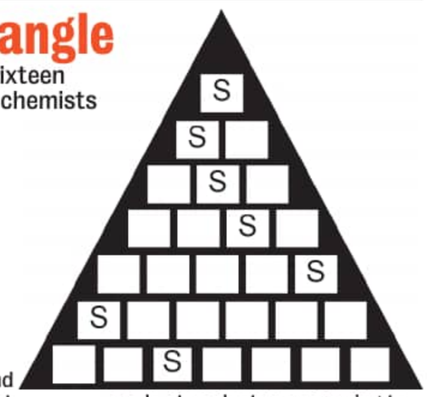
Differences: 1. Man's leg is longer. 2. Woman's hair is different. 3. Pillow is added. 4. Legs are added to chair. 5. Vacuum bag is different. 6. Picture behind woman is missing.

Riddler

Fill in the blank with a word that rhymes with one of these three words, is a synonym of another one of these three words and is an anagram of the last of these three words

Alpha triangle

1 Atomic number Sixteen
2 Selenium for the chemists
3 Avail oneself of
4 Stratagem
5 Heals
6 Safe and
7 Salvaged



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Popeye

The BRIDE!
A TALE OF ROYAL LOVE AND A BROKEN SAILOR!
BY BUD SAGENDORF
THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE! ARE YOU GOING TO MARRY ME?
A TWENTY-YEAR ENGAGEMENT IS TOO MUCH!!
TAKIN' A WIFE IS A BIG RESPONSIBILIKY!! WE DOESN'T WANT TO RUSH INTO ANYTHIN'!
3-10
popeye.com

Bizarrotrip

Don't stand there gawking. Somebody call a podcaster.
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Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

I TOLD YOU YOU NEED NEW FRIENDS.
MAYBE THEY'RE BUSY.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2025 ANDREWS MCMEEL
HERE. THESE ARE FROM MY WEIRDO FRIENDS.
"Director Dans" has a nice ring to it.
~ Kat, Dean, and CHARLOTTE
CONGRATS KID
@COMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

YOU CAN'T STAY UNDER THE BED FOREVER, DAD!
YOU CAN'T HIDE FROM LIFE.
ON THE CONTRARY...
THESE DAYS, HIDING IS THE ONLY WAY TO GO.
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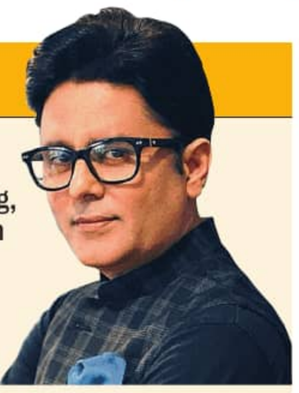
Mutts

WRITTEN IN THE STARS

DR SUNDEEP KOCHAR



If it's your birthday today

Focus on your creative self-expression this Thursday. Whether through writing, music, or simply a passionate presentation, let your inner Archer aim high with originality. A minor communication glitch may arise around midday; double-check all outgoing messages. Remember that the journey itself is the reward, so enjoy the process of creation more than the final applause.

Aries Mar 21–Apr 20

Your career shines brightly today, expect recognition and praise from colleagues. Romance also blossoms as someone's interest becomes clear. Take the initiative and embrace both love and success.

Taurus Apr 21–May 20

Energy surges through your day, sports, projects, and social plans keep you active. Manage finances wisely; save extra for stability. Balance enthusiasm with prudence to ensure lasting productivity and security.

Gemini May 21–Jun 21

Stay authentic today. Resist changing to please others; your individuality is your charm. Confidence in who you are will naturally attract respect, admiration, and appreciation from everyone around you.

Cancer Jun 22–July 23

If life feels dull, transform it yourself. Redecorate, rearrange, and refresh your surroundings to inspire motivation. A lively environment enhances focus and lifts your spirits, turning monotony into creative energy.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

Be cautious with finances today, avoid placing all investments in one area. Work remains easygoing, and quality family time later strengthens bonds beautifully. Stability comes from balance, not overexertion.

Virgo Aug 24–Sep 23

Your time is valuable, guard it well. Finish personal tasks before assisting others. A workout boosts motivation and positivity, setting an energetic tone for a productive, focused, and healthy week ahead.

Libra Sep 24–Oct 22

Your persuasion powers peak today! With charm and confidence, you can achieve anything you seek. Use your irresistible energy to turn situations in your favour, professionally and personally. Seize opportunities.

Scorpio Oct 23–Nov 22

Major professional success arrives, you've earned it. Celebrate the breakthrough you've long awaited. Later, reconnect with family and friends; their aection grounds you.

Sagittarius Nov 23–Dec 22

Your hard work finally gains recognition. Expect a golden career opportunity. Don't remain passive, embrace activity and curiosity. Get out, explore, and say yes to everything that fuels growth.

Capricorn Dec 23–Jan 20

Time favours you today. With fewer responsibilities, indulge in long-delayed goals or pleasures. Use your free hours productively, life rarely pauses, but today it oers space for joy and reflection.

Aquarius Jan 21–Feb 19

Your intuition leads perfectly, trust it! Express initiative by volunteering for a new project; your ambition will impress superiors. Success follows courage today, so take decisive steps toward advancement.

Pisces Feb 20–Mar 20

Romance awakens beautifully, love flows again after quiet times. Family admiration warms your heart, and professional praise uplifts you further. Enjoy this fulfilling balance of aection and encouragement.

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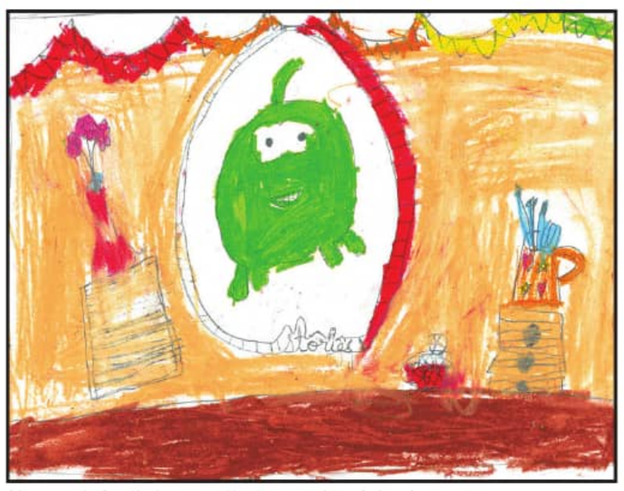
KIDZONE



Shanaya B Sunil, 6 years, National Public School

Gangamma, 12 years, Kaggadasapura Govt school

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M

√(x -3232)²=50
(x -3232)²=50²
(x-3232)²=2500
x-3232=√2500
x= 50+3232
x=3282

BULL'S EYE

OUTWORK, rout, tour

FAST FIVE

K	A	R	S	T
E	D	E	M	A
B	O	S	O	M
A	B	A	T	E
B	O	W	E	D

RIDDLER

Coat

STRIKE OUT

S	A	G	A	R	E	L	O	G	E	E				
R	I	A	N	S										
A	B	R	A	D	E	A	E	R	I	A	L			
E	L	E	W	E	R	S	D	U						
E	X	I	S	T	S	K	I	D	N	A	P			
V	O	R	C	A	W	E	E							
A	E	A	R	N	E	R	S	H						
H	E	O	N	R	E	A	T	T						
S	A	D	D	E	N	S	H	E	A	R	S			
L	A	E	N	A	C	T	R	L						
L	I	V	E	R	Y	S	O	R	A	R	E			
A	N	L	I	F	A	D	W	A	I	T	E			
W	H	I	G											

QUICK

C	A	R	E	E	R		R	A	T	T	L	E		
Z		M		E		A			E		B			
S	Z	E	C	H	W	A	N		N	E	R	O		
I		A		O		L			F			H		
U	P	S		G	R	O	U	S	E	S		P		
T		N		N		M			W			O		
T	O	O	K	I	N		R	E	J	O	I	N		
U		I		L				E		R		E		
P		P	O	S	S	E	S	S		C	L	X		
L		M		A		P		T		Y				
O	M	A	N		G	R	I	P	P	I	N	G		
O		H		E		H		A		I				
N	I	C	K	E	D		S	T	R	I	V	E		

MENSA PUZZLE

When the doors of opportunity swing open, we must make sure that we are not too drunk or too indifferent to walk through.

G. Working clockwise around each star, letters increase in steps given by the numerical value of the central figure.

QUOTE UNCODE

1	8	4	7	5	2	9	6	3						
7	9	5	8	6	3	2	4	1						
2	3	6	4	1	9	5	7	8						
9	4	8	2	3	1	7	5	6						
3	7	2	5	8	6	1	9	4						
6	5	1	9	4	7	8	3	2						

SUDOKU

5	2	3	1	9	4	6	8	7
4	1	9	6	7	8	3	2	5
8	6	7	3	2	5	4	1	9

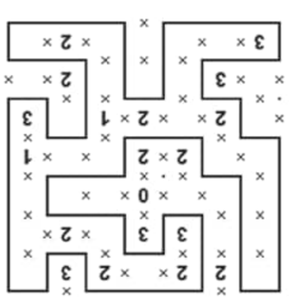
ALPHA TRIANGLE

S, Se, Use, Ruse, Cures, Secure, Rescued.

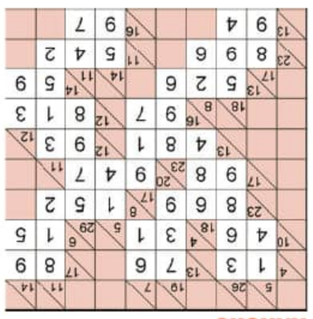
GO FIGURE

Easy
7-8 + 9 + 7 = 15
Medium
6 x 3 x 1 + 1 = 19
Hard
4 + 3 x 5 + 4 = 39

LOOP



KAKURO



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SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Social lens

In Kannada, an incorrigible drunkard is referred to as a 'Peotu'. A film of the same name, Peotu, directed by Karthik Rajan, is scheduled for release on December 12. The movie seeks to highlight the ill-effects of alcohol, particularly among young people, and aims to deliver a social message through its narrative. The release comes a day after Challenging Star Darshan's Devil, which is slated to open on December 11.

The team of Peotu gathered at MMB Legacy on Saturday to unveil the trailer of the movie and announce its release date. They appealed to moviegoers to encourage and support their movie after watching Darshan's Devil. "We appeal to moviegoers to watch Peotu too after watching the Darshan movie Devil. Peotu has all the ingredients to entertain audiences. I have come across drunkards who became addicts due to personal reasons. I directed this movie to narrate the problems of drunkards and how they struggle to lead normal lives," said director Karthik Rajan.

Peotu tells the story of Peter, an alcoholic grappling with life's challenges. The audio rights have been acquired by Lahari Music.

Prashanth, a film distributor, said that he agreed to buy the movie's distribution rights after watching it. "The movie will be screened at 25 single screen theatres and 15 multiplexes across the state," he said.

"I worked hard for this movie. Its shooting was held at a rehab centre. The condition of inmates

at the rehab centre was pathetic which haunted me even after the movie was wrapped up," recalls Likith MN, who played the lead in the movie.

Bollywood's 007?

Shah Rukh Khan spills the tea on whether he would consider playing the new Bond hero

Daniel Craig's time as James Bond ends with No Time To Die, leaving fans wondering who will be next to take on the legendary role. Among the many actors rumoured, Aaron Taylor-Johnson and Callum Turner's names have come up frequently. But what about Bollywood's Shah Rukh Khan? While visiting London to unveil a bronze statue alongside his DDLJ co-star, Shah Rukh was asked if he would consider playing 007.

When asked about his future plans after dabbling in action films, Shah Rukh was questioned if he saw himself as the next James Bond. He candidly replied, "No, I don't have the accent. I don't like shaken martini (referring to Bond's choice of drinks). I haven't done too many action films, actually. I was always wanting to do an action film, but then Kajol was in my life, and you can't do action films when Kajol is acting opposite you. So I did all the romantic films!".

During the discussion, Kajol, sitting beside Khan, playfully reminded him that he had worked on many films beyond their collaborations. Shah Rukh acknowledged this, saying, "Yeah, but the ones we are known for are the ones we have done

together. We can't deny that. So, I just did a few action films because I always felt I could. I did it a little late in the day. I think I enjoyed it. I don't know James Bond, but Sean Connery for sure, yeah!".

Many actors have brought James Bond to life over the years, including legends like Sean Connery, David Niven, Roger Moore, Timothy Dalton, Pierce Brosnan, and Daniel Craig. Daniel Craig's final appearance as 007 was in No Time to Die. As of now, no official word has been given about who will step into Bond's shoes next. The next Bond film is expected to be directed by Denis Villeneuve, famous for his work on Dune.

—ETimes

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